



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ruth Coleman, Director

Inland Empire District
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WCCA AC Attachment
Item XI
10/6/10

September 20, 2010

Josephine R. Axt, Ph.D.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District
Attention: Hayley Lovan (CESPL-PD-RN)
PO Box 532711
Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325

Re: Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment and Addendum to Environmental Impact Report 583 (SEA), SCH # 2010084008 (reference SCH# 1997071087)

Dear Dr. Axt:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned project and remain committed to working with you to successfully implement the project.

State Parks is a Trustee Agency as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). State Parks is also a Responsible Agency as defined by CEQA because the proposed project would occur within and require permanent use of Chino Hills SP (Chino Hills SP). State Parks' mission in part is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by preserving the state's extraordinary biodiversity and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

In general, State Parks disagrees with your conclusion that there will not be significant impacts associated with this proposed project. State Parks will provide additional comments as part of our Right of Entry permit process.

Recreation

We disagree that "...no recreational facilities or opportunities are located within the boundaries of the permanent footprint of the proposed project" (Section 3.7.1) The proposed project would directly impact an identified trail as shown on the Chino Hills SP brochure. Furthermore, please revise trail and recreation references, such as the two bulleted items in Section 4.7.2, to accurately reflect opportunities at Chino Hills SP.

Chino Hills SP exists for the public's enjoyment of outdoor recreation, including wildlife viewing, and aesthetic values. Wildlife resources, including native plants and animals, contribute to the recreational value of the outdoor experience. Impacts to plants and animals will effectively alter the composition of the aesthetic landscape, at a minimum, thereby reducing the quality visitor experience.

We request that the Army Corps provide public recreation access on the levee roads. The entrance to Chino Hills SP that is behind the Green River Housing Estates is the only access

point for this southern portion of Chino Hills SP and is also used by many people who fish in the Santa Ana River. In addition, the Land and Water Conservation Fund program requires recreation to be integrated into the proposed project.

Mitigation

State Parks requests approval authority on all restoration components, including, plant palette for the seed mix as the Park is situated nearby and downstream from the project site and seeds and propagules have a great likelihood to be wind blown or wash down stream and take root within the State Park.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and for your serious consideration. For further discussion, please contact me or Enrique Arroyo at (951) 453-6848.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Krueper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" being more prominent than the last name "Krueper".

Ron Krueper
District Superintendent

cc: Jay T. Chamberlin, California State Parks
Central Records, California State Parks
Judi Tamasi, WCCA
The Resources Agency
State Clearinghouse